GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1800
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2004
UTILIZATION OF ALLOCATION FOR WELFARE OF SCHEDULED TRIBES
Chandel Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are certain States which have not fully utilized the allocation made for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes and have utilized the funds elsewhere; and (

(b) if so, the details thereof and the efforts made by the Union Government to ensure proper use of this fund?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH)

(a) No such case of diversion of funds has come to the notice of this Ministry during the last years.

(b) To prevent misappropriation of funds and to ensure their proper utilization, the Government has taken several measures, which include:

(i) Utilization Certificates are insisted upon as a pre-requisite for further release of funds;

(ii) Periodic progress reports regarding the status of implementation of schemes are obtained;

(iii) Central Government Officers undertake on the spot visits to the States/UTs for ascertaining the progress of implementation of schemes;

(iv) Meetings/conferences are convened at the Central level with State Secretaries of Tribal Welfare Departments to ensure timely submission of proposals, speed up implementation of schemes, and review physical and financial progress.

(v) At the State/field level, the agencies, like, Tribal Advisory Council, project Implementation Committees of ITDP`s and Panchayat Samitis also monitor timely spending of funds and effective implementation of schemes;

(vi) To avoid delays in disbursement of funds by the State/Plan/Finance and Tribal Welfare Departments to the line departments/implementing agencies, the guidelines for allocation and utilization of SCA to TSP have since been revised with the provision of ITDA/ITDP-wise earmarking of SCA funds. It has been provided in the guidelines that all States/UTs should ensure that assessment of actual programmes/schemes implemented under TSP on socio-economic condition of the tribals covered under ITDPs, MADAs, Clusters, PGTs, as the case may be, should specifically be undertaken.

(vii) In the case of the schemes implemented through the Non- Governmental Organisations (NGOs), funds are released after an assessment of the standing of the NGO, past performance etc. Apart from thee periodic progress reports, the NGOs are required to furnish annual accounts and audited reports and utilization certificates on the basis of which further release of funds are made. Inspection of NGOs is also undertaken through State Governments/U.T. officials and other authorities, and also by the Central Government officers.